

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
MCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 SIG-01 /131 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RLBARRY:EK
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO/TRC:CHARTLEY (DRAFT)
M/CT:HISHAM (DRAFT)
EB/OA:JGRAVATT (DRAFT)
AF/I:LSHURTLEFF (DRAFT)
EUR:RVINE (DRAFT)
EA/RA:LMCNUUTT (DRAFT)
NEA/RA:HPRECHT (DRAFT)
S/P:CHUME(DRAFT)
L/UNA:DSTEWART
L/T:MMCQUADE
ARA/RPP:POAKLEY

-----017075 142008Z /45

R 141939Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
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AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 010996

MONTREAL FOR USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EAIR

SUBJECT: ANTI-HIJACKING CONTACT GROUP

REF: USUN 0099

1. REFTEL, WHICH IS BEING PASSED SEPARATELY TO ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES, IS AN AGREED TEXT OF A JOINT INSTRUCTION TO THE US, FRG, JAPANESE, AND DUTCH AMBASSADORS IF REPRESENTED IN THE ADDRESSEE CAPITALS TO APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENT AND INVITE ITS PARTICIPATION IN AN ANTI-HI-CONFIDENTIAL

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JACKING CONTACT GROUP BEING ORGANIZED ON THE INITIATIVE OF THESE FOUR GOVERNMENTS. THE TEXT OF THE INSTRUCTION WAS AGREED UPON BY US, FRG, JAPANESE AND DUTCH REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK. YOUR COLLEAGUES SHOULD BE RECEIVING SUBSTANTIALLY IDENTICAL TEXTS FROM THEIR FOREIGN OFFICES. YOU SHOULD MEET WITH THEM AS SOON AS THEY ARE INSTRUCTED AND AGREE ON THE MODALITIES OF AN APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT BEST SUITED TO LOCAL CONDITIONS. WE WANT TO KEEP THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE INVITATION INTACT SO AS TO CREATE NO CONFUSION, BUT IN THE INTEREST OF PROMPT DEMARCHES POSTS MAY USE THEIR DISCRETION IN IMPLEMENTING REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS. WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PERSUADE YOUR COLLEAGUES TO USE THEIR DISCRETION TO AVOID REQUESTS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH COULD DELAY DEMARCHE.

2. MOST ACTION ADDRESSEES WILL HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THE CONCEPT OF THE CONTACT GROUP FROM EARLIER MESSAGES. OTHERS WHOSE PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE DUTCH, GERMANS OR JAPANESE AT THE NEW YORK JANUARY 11 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, WILL BE HEARING OF THE IDEA FOR THE FIRST TIME. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO OBTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE

GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE CONSISTENT WITH THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THE CONTACT GROUP. WE WOULD EXPECT SOME GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE ONLY MINIMALLY. OTHERS MAY DECLINE INVITATION TO ATTEND THE MARCH ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING. NEVERTHELESS, WE THINK THE INVITATION SHOULD BE TENDERED.

3. IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU COULD AGREE WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES ON THE TEXT OF A JOINT REPORT OF THE DEMARCHE AND THE HOST COUNTRY RESPONSE TO EACH OF THE FOUR FOREIGN OFFICES. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE RESPECTIVE MISSIONS IN NEW YORK INFORMED SO THAT THEY CAN STAY IN TOUCH AND CONSULT, AS NECESSARY PRIOR TO MARCH ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING.

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4. FOR TEHRAN AND JIDDA: WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO FRG, JAPANESE AND DUTCH FOREIGN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES THAT US HAS ALREADY MADE TENTATIVE APPROACH TO IRANIAN AND SAUDI GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING CONTACT GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND RECEIVED GENERALLY FAVORABLE REPLIES. YOU SHOULD POINT THIS OUT TO YOUR LOCAL COLLEAGUES AND ADJUST YOUR APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENTS ACCORDINGLY.

5. FOR BELGRADE AND PARIS: DESPITE THE RESERVATIONS YOU EXPRESSED EARLIER ABOUT THE RECEPTIVITY OF HOST GOVERNMENT TO INVITATION TO JOIN CONTACT GROUP, OTHER CORE GROUP MEMBERS FEEL STRONGLY THAT INVITATIONS SHOULD BE EXTENDED. FRENCH EMBASSY HERE HAS THIS MONTH ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE HIGHLIGHTING GOF'S POSITION AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. LEAD SENTENCE OF RELEASE STATES FRANCE IS ONE OF 50 COUNTRIES THAT HAVE RATIFIED ALL THREE TREATIES -- TOKYO, THE HAGUE AND MONTREAL. STATEMENT WAS ALSO MADE THAT ACCESSION TO RELEVANT AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE UNIVERSAL.

6. FOR MOSCOW: IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT YOUR ESTIMATE THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD BE UNWILLING TO JOIN THIS EFFORT WAS CORRECT, BUT IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT SOVIETS SHOULD BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO COOPERATE IF THEY DESIRE.

7. FOR ACCRA, ABIDJAN, LIBREVILLE, NAIROBI, LAGOS: THE DEPARTMENT WILL FORWARD BY SEPTTEL A REQUEST THAT EMBASSY APPROACH LOCAL CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES REGARDING SECURITY PROBLEMS AND DEFICIENCIES RECENTLY OBSERVED BY A FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION INSPECTOR AT THE RESPECTIVE AIRPORTS. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT THE

PARTICIPATION OF YOUR HOST GOVERNMENTS IN THE CONTACT GROUP IS DESIRABLE AND THAT THE RAISING BY THE U.S.
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OF THESE TECHNICAL SECURITY PROBLEMS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THEIR WILLINGNESS TO JOIN.

8. FOR ISLAMABAD: PAKISTAN WAS ADDED TO THE LIST OF POTENTIAL CONTACT GROUP MEMBERS AT THE STRONG URGING OF THE DUTCH AND THE GERMANS, WHO FELT THAT PAKISTAN WOULD PLAY A USEFUL ROLE AS A MEMBER OF THE GROUP.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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